

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Richard Hinson (Reg. No. 47,652) on March 11-12, 2008.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, at line 8, after "the modality component", insert --and--.

In claim 1, at line 10, replace "is" with "are".

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A modality component server for managing distributed multimodal interactions comprising:

a modality activator configured to dynamically activate the at least one modality component responsive to an occurrence of an application event initiated by a multimodal application from a client device, connecting said activated modality component to said client device and for disconnecting the activated modality component from the client device and deactivating the modality component upon completion of an interaction response; and

a multimodal engine including an inference engine, and a shared memory area for storing a set of activation conditions registered by each modality component, wherein the set of activation conditions defines how the modality component is activated, and how input and output

between the modality component and the client device is started and stopped, wherein the modality component is activated whenever one of the set of activation conditions is detected, and wherein activation conditions are added or removed by an application module, said multimodal engine being configured to detect an interaction and to responsively initiate an interaction response by comparing activation conditions submitted by the multimodal application with the stored activation conditions in the shared memory area, wherein said interaction and said interaction response have been specified by a previous registered modality component.

In claim 12, at line 9, after “the modality component”, insert –and--.

In claim 18, at line 2, after “comprising:”, insert –a processor;--.

In claim 18, at line 7, after “how input and output between the modality component”,
insert –and--.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diem K. Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-3760. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30AM - 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Meng-Ai An/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195

DC
March 12, 2008